

The Journal and Courier

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

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Notice.

We cannot accept anonymous or return rejected communications. In all cases the name of the writer will be required, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A French scientist says that girls who play on the piano suffer from a great many nervous maladies. Those who are obliged to hear them also suffer.

A cable will soon be laid between Iceland and the Shetland Islands, the northernmost point of the British telegraph system. The money has been subscribed. Great Britain, Iceland and Denmark jointly guaranteeing six per cent. interest for a number of years. Telegraphic communication with stations in Iceland, lying as it does in the middle of the North Atlantic, will be of great value to meteorologists.

The experiment of reducing the cotton acreage has worked so well in the season just closed that there is a strong probability that it will be repeated on a larger scale next year. A vigorous movement to that end is already on foot, and it is proposed to extend the organization of cotton growers, begun a year ago, to include as large a membership as possible. The limit set for next year's crop is 7,000,000 bales.

The use of concrete bridges is extending in this country and in Europe. At Munderkingen, in Austria, a concrete bridge of 164-feet span over the Danube was recently constructed. The centering was covered with oiled paper, and on this Portland cement, mixed with sand and broken stone, was laid in layers a foot thick, beginning at the abutments and working toward the crown. At the crown the concrete was three and one-half feet thick. In France it is customary to make such bridges much thinner at the crown, iron rods inclosed in the cement being used to give strength.

That the six children of the late Jay Gould will be able to live in comparative comfort if they do not die is shown by the report of the appraiser of the estate, just filed in the surrogate's court in New York. According to this report each of the six children is entitled to a life estate in trust as follows: George J. Gould, \$9,077,194; Edwin Gould, \$9,215,728; Helen M. Gould, \$9,358,457; Anna Gould, Countess de Castellane, \$9,712,218; Frank J. Gould, \$9,817,585; and Howard Gould, \$9,519,296. In addition to these bequests there will come to each of the above named heirs sums ranging all the way from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000, these latter bequests being in the form of remainders.

It is said that Rev. Joel Jewell, who recently died in Troy, Pennsylvania, originated the word "teetotal." The story goes that at a public temperance meeting in Hector, New York, in 1828, he introduced into the pledge the letters "O. T." for "old pledge," which pledged against distilled liquors, and "T." for total, including both distilled and fermented liquors. When names were being taken a young man in the gallery said: "Add my name and a 'T' for I am a 'T-teetotaler'." Mr. Jewell adopted the word in speeches and writings. Some four years later an Englishman named Dick Turner employed the word, and its origin has been ascribed to him. Mr. Jewell was born in Dunham, Greene county, N. Y., February 11, 1803, and became a revivalist and temperance worker at an early age. For over fifty years he was an active Presbyterian clergyman, although not ordained until he was forty.

All is not gold that glitters. Robert Perry, a Chicago contractor, who has been spending two months in Johannesburg, South Africa, says: I want to warn Americans to keep away from that part of the world. There is nothing to go there for. The climate is unhealthy, living is exorbitantly high, and the people who are there are almost all in a starving condition. Negroes do all the work in the mines, which are all owned by Barnato and Rhodes. The place is a desert where scarcely anything grows, and there is a water famine most of the time. Every imaginable thing is taxed heavily. Even Pretoria's own paper has printed a warning to the world to keep away from the place. The people who have lived there ten or fifteen years are away behind the times. When I told them

about the motorcycle and the kind-scope they thought I was telling fairy tales, and would not believe me.

An incident in illustration of a smart trick said to be not infrequently played by coyotes in securing food from among the herds of sheep on western ranches is related by a rancher of Grant county, Oregon. He had a herd of 1,000 sheep, and recently missed a large number. In searching for them a herder found three sheep lying on the brink of a precipice, their throats marked with the teeth of a coyote. He made his way to the bottom of a canyon 300 feet below, and there found the bodies of 110 sheep, or rather parts of their bodies, for the coyotes had been feeding on the carcasses for a week or more. From other incidents of like character it was concluded that several coyotes had got among the herd when the sheep were driven off their bedding ground during a storm, and had herded them to the brink of the precipice, much as a lot of sheep dogs would drive sheep. When the edge was reached, the coyotes pressed the herd so hard in the rear that the 110 at the front either jumped or were pushed over the precipice.

DUNRAVEN'S INTENT.

The Earl of Dunraven has left the investigation with quite as much promptness and celerity as he showed in leaving the yacht race, thus adding materially to his reputation as "a quitter." Nobody appears to know what to make of him and his performances. The talk was that he had come over to press his charges and present a large amount of evidence that he had accumulated. But he has gone with dispatch and as much secrecy as possible, and those who ought to know say that he has not made good his charges and that he has left in disappointment and disgust. If this turns out to be true it will not surprise those who watched his antics at the time of the race. He needs vindication, but if he hasn't been able to get it he hasn't done himself any good by the charges he has made.

It is understood that Nat Herreshoff, the designer of the Defender, has testified that the lead water-line of the Defender could not have been changed, as was charged by Lord Dunraven, and that if fourteen tons of additional ballast had been smuggled aboard, as Lord Dunraven insinuated, the vessel would have been useless as a racer. He ought to know. But if Dunraven was fairly outwitted the indications are that he will never know it.

A WORTHY SUGGESTION.

Before anybody gets ready to help the Armenians there may be no Armenians to be helped. They are being disposed of at such a rapid rate that if they are to be helped a decisive move must be made soon by somebody. What a strange and awful thing it is that there can be such delay in this matter, and that "considerations of state" offer such obstacles to considerations of humanity.

In his sermon yesterday Rev. Dr. Newman Smyth made a good and practical suggestion when he said that the people of this country would do their duty if they would openly and formally pledge the support of the United States to England in any steps which she might take to protect the Armenians. And he drew a glowing picture of the effect such action would be likely to have on the relations of the two countries, which are just now a little strained. It is certain that unless in such a righteous cause would make friendly feeling between the two countries. It would also be a noble service to mankind and the civilization thereof. The Venezuelan question would keep while the Armenian question was being righteously dealt with, and the Monroe doctrine would not suffer while England and the United States were engaged in supporting the great doctrine of the brotherhood of man, and the right of those treated as the Armenians are to the sympathy and the help of the two great Christian nations of the world.

We hope this suggestion will find the favor it deserves, and be promptly acted on. Venezuela's boundary line can be and probably will be fairly fixed by and by. At present England and the United States have no more pressing public duty than to go to the rescue of the Armenians, whose wrongs and sufferings and blood have been too long crying to the civilized world for effectual action against the ruthless Turk if not for bloody vengeance.

ILLITERACY IN MICHIGAN.

The agitation in Michigan regarding the restriction of the elective franchise to those who are able to read and write is supported by some important facts. The total male population of voting age in the State is 61,820, and fifty-three in each thousand cannot read or write the English or any other language. The proportion is much larger among the foreign-born males (who number 238,895) than among the native males, being for the former ninety-two in each thousand, and for the latter twenty-eight. A striking development of the figures is that the proportion of the native males of voting age unable to read or write is fourteen in each thousand more in the country than in the cities. The total number of illiterate persons ten years old or over in the State is returned at 85,097, of whom 50,772 can neither read nor write, and

24,325 can read but cannot write. The number is 877 less than returned in 1890, and 16,176 less than returned in 1880. Of the total illiterate 24,390 are native and 40,112 foreign born. In the cities the proportion of the native inhabitants unable to read or write is less than the proportion for the entire State, while of the foreign-born it is practically the same as the proportion for the entire State. The number of females returned as unable to read or write is 30,553, or a trifle more than three-fourths as many as of the males. The number of children from five to ten years of age who cannot read or write is 57,942, or 233 in each one thousand of the total population between those ages. Among the children there is a larger proportion of illiterates in the cities than in the country, the ratio in the country being 210 in each thousand of the country population aged five to ten, and in the cities 274 in each thousand.

FASHION NOTES.

Fashions in Furs That Are Freakish.

With Christmas just over, all the women who try to keep up with fashion's march have lots of pretty things, and the styles really take shape for the season. During the past few days it has transpired that the fur tipper is enormously popular, and that it is something distinct from the bon, the collar or the collarette. It has been decided that the bon is becoming only just in front, and that the side and back view are ugly, not to say funny. The latest tipper is a little flat collar that sets well up about the ears, but does not spread at the upper edge. The collar is rounded at the back and hooks in front, a pair of pendant tails hanging there. Sometimes these tails are genuine, again they are made believe and are fluffed at the tips with a little hanging ball of fur. Upon this general design there are all sorts of elaborations.



The collar may be made of one fur and the tails may be of another. The collar may be of velvet or of cloth and may be planned to match the coat or cloak; the tails in front may be multiplied to a lovely bunch that is most generous, or one big one may hang away to the waist; or the tails may be replaced by satin-lined panels that widen towards the lower edge. Such use of fur always seems unjustifiable, because it does not add to the artistic effect of the garment and it gives no warmth, but these tricks are all resorted to by stylish folk.

The employment of fur that this illustration depicts is free from this condemnation. While the gown may not be any warmer for its liberal trimming of fur, it certainly is much handsomer, and that is excuse enough. Of brown cloth and cut princess, it has an 1830s cloth yoke having a square insertion of sealskin. The back is plain, with deep goilets in the skirt, and is banded with fur around the hem, the same fur extending down the front. The left side is draped, the end coming over the fur, and is held in place by a silver button, a second button appearing at the left side. Wide fur bands are put on the sleeves at the base of the yoke, the sleeves themselves consisting of very full puffs ending in fitted cuffs. The collar is wired to keep it in place.

FLORETTE.

UNLIMITED.

In Chicago—Visitor—Where is it that man lives? Must be outside the city limits, isn't it? Resident—Outside the what? Visitor—The city limits. Resident—We haven't any.—Puck.

Parson—I married Smithers to his first wife, and he gave me \$50. When I married him to his second, he gave me \$5. Wiggins—He knew more about matrimony the second time, I guess.—Harper's Bazar.

A French confectioner, proud of his English, and wishing to let patrons know that their wants should be attended to at once, without any delay, put out the sign—"Short Weights Here."—Harper's Bazar.

Brown—You look as if you had the blues.

Robinson—So I have. I've lost my beautiful new silk umbrella.

"Where did you leave it?"

"I didn't leave it anywhere. The owner met me and took it away from me."—Sparks Moments.

"Have a paper?" bawled a newsboy to an old gentleman from the country on Austin avenue. "No hurry, sonny. Perhaps after you have read it I'll glance over it," and as he passed down the street he murmured: "Nice folks, these Austin people; so polite to a stranger."—Texas Sittings.

The folly of it—I might as well plead guilty, Judge," owned up the penitent man at the bar. "If it had been a ball of lace or a basket of diamonds you might have called it kleptomaniac and let me go, but I don't reckon that would work in this case. I stole the hog, Judge."—Chicago Tribune.

Mrs. Woolberton (impatiently)—Get outen dis house, yo' good fo' 'nuffin' laze nigger. Yo' oughter be 'shamed ab yo'self, sissy, dis all de day long watchin' yo' wife make de libbin' fo' de family. Mr. Woolberton (with a whine)—Yo' didn't ask me to do dat way at de was den married. Yo' aster-call me Sugar, den. Mrs. Woolberton—Yo' an' I call yo' sugar now—loaf sugar. Dat's what yo' is—loaf sugar!—Puck.

Discoveries in the Roman Campagna. The Journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects contains an illustrated article by Mr. J. Tavorer Perry on "Some Recent Discoveries at Nemi, in the Roman Campagna." Referring to the exploration, once more being attempted, of the bed of the Lake of Nemi, which, through all its known history, has been the scene of great and important works, remarkable even among Roman constructions, he says it was long believed that one of the early Caesars had erected a floating palace on the surface of the lake, and many attempts have been made to recover it, but the conclusion at last arrived at is that the tradition was wrong, and that the palace, or whatever it was, was of the nature of a permanent structure raised upon piles.

Mr. Perry continues: "Being in the Caesarian Gardens at Genzano a short time since, I saw a small raft, moored out on the Nemi side, disturbing the placid surface of the lake; but I was then unable to ascertain why it was there. Returning to Rome, I made some inquiries, which not only enabled me to get what I believe to be authentic information as to what has been done and what it is proposed further to do, but to obtain the beautiful photographs printed with this communication. The recent diving operations, which have so far been carried out by private enterprise, have resulted in proving the supposed villa to have been neither more nor less than the landing stage of the traditional galley, which had gradually subsided by decay, beneath the water of the lake, and which has thus been preserved until now in a fairly perfect condition. It is of considerable extent, and lies about sixty feet below the surface, and could only be brought up to the land piecemeal after considerable damage. The materials, I believe, under the consideration of the Italian government. They have before them a proposal to employ some skilled engineers from Spezia, who, by forming a coffer dam around the stage, the extent and position of which have now been accurately determined, and by pumping out the water, would either raise it to the surface or expose it so that it may be carefully examined and delineated by experts. The piles which support the stage are sheathed in copper and were carved with bronze, having on the one face heads holding the rings in their mouths for the mooring ropes. These heads, of most beautiful workmanship, are most perfectly preserved. Being easily moved, they have been brought to the surface, and prove clearly that they were provided for mooring ships or galleys to the stage, and that the tradition of the galley is reasonable. The Medusa head, of still more exquisite workmanship, may have been affixed to a prow, but I was unable to ascertain exactly the position in which it was found. The stage was laid with a marble pavement, consisting of large plaques of porphyry, with encircling pieces of white and green marbles and a quantity of glass mosaic. From the description it would seem that the character of the pavement was that of opus alexandrinum. It is also stated that the galley has been seen afresh, and the discovery of the use to which the permanent structure was devoted has clearly demonstrated that a movable palace or ship of some kind was intended to be placed on the lake. It is to be hoped that when the stage has been recovered the galley may be at least looked for; but, even if found, the enormous depth of the lake in its center may preclude any attempt to raise it."

The Collie Pup and the Kitten.

Dogs are very affectionate, no doubt, but they can also be very spiteful. Some time ago a family living at New Mills, Berwick, got a collie dog pup and put him along with a kitten, and the pair seemed to get on very well for a time. Jealousy was not long in springing up, however, and a few days ago the puppy was seen to lift the kitten in his mouth, carry him to the back of the house, and cautiously looking round to see that no one was looking, drop the kitten into the ash-pit. Pussy was recovered, however, and, like an invalid, received a double share of attention for some time after. The kitten may have still further intensified the dog's jealousy, for his next move was even more remarkable.

One day the dog was observed to lift the kitten in his mouth and proceed by a circuitous route to Whitadder Bridge, about three hundred yards from the dwelling. Trotting to the middle of the bridge, he halted, put his head through between the metal uprights, and dropped Tabby into the river from a height of twenty feet. He then began to jump about and bark, evidently an expression of satisfaction at the success of his murderous plan. The noise the dog was making served to attract the people of the house, who, on going to the bridge, found the cat struggling in the river. It was rescued, but how the pair will get on in future remains to be seen.—Westminster Gazette.

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ANTI-NEUROUS DYSPEPTIC.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

Judge (to prisoner)—Why did you take only the money, and leave the basket of silver?

Prisoner—Because it was too heavy. Judge (excitedly)—Aren't you ashamed of yourself, you lazy man?—Pileggi's Blotter.

A Phonetic Alphabet.

(From the Churchman.)

Mary attempts have been made to devise a "Phonetic Alphabet" for the English language, especially since the study of phonography has proved that in using the ordinary alphabet there are "too many sounds for a sign and too many signs for a sound." Up to the present time these attempts have been failures, at least as far as any general acceptance of the schemes is concerned. Yet phonography is admittedly the most accurate as well as the shortest method of writing the language, and there is no good reason why a well devised plan for printing the language phonetically should not succeed. Such a plan is the Cosmo-Roman alphabet of Robert W. Mason, who has given great attention to the subject. The letters are so shaped as to suggest their phonetic power by their resemblance to known characters or combinations of characters. It is the purpose of the inventor to publish a New Testament in this character, and to take advantage of the desire of foreigners to learn English by putting within their reach a speedy road to the reading of English (for the translation to reading ordinary type will not be difficult) and at the same time they will have been taken through the Scriptures of the New Covenant. A careful examination of Mr. Mason's system convinces us that he has devised the best phonetic alphabet for English which has as yet been invented. His plan is both practical and practicable.

Contributions in aid of this publication may be sent to Robert W. Mason, 632 Eighth avenue, New York.

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Toilet Water, etc.

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for New Year functions

Long Stem
Rosebuds
beautiful
Palma
Violets
to wear at the corsage.

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Dress Shirts, Bows, Gloves, Silk Handkerchiefs, Black Half Hose in silk, cotton and cashmere, full dress Collars and Cuffs, plain and link.

Close rolled calling Umbrellas from 98 cents up
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Tea Crush Yoke prettiness, lace and ribbon effects, 98 cents up

The Persian Liberty Square with its exquisite stand, 88 c. from corner to corner, is our exclusive novelty at \$2.98

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